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LOCAL NEWS.—The City and Suburbau News Bureat of the United Person and New York Associated Prisss is at 21 to 29 Ann street. All information and documents for public use instantly disseminated to the press of the whole country.

## Speed the Maple!

He has gone off duck shooting again in the little Maple, with the doctor and the demijohn! Well, what of it? It may be remembered that he returned from the last expedition of this sort sufficiently primed with Americanism to sign the Venezuela message which OLNEY had ready for him. The astounded world knows the rest.

We confess that our ideas about the pro priety of these periodical excursions in search of solltude and ducks have changed somewhat in view of recent events. The President's practice may involve certain technical irregularities in respect to the conversion of Government property to private use, but that is a small matter, if his heart is right. He came back last time with his heart nearer dead right than at any previous time since his inauguration

What will it be this time; Cuba or Hawaii!

The coming weeks will probably be of supreme moment to the great and beautiful island that lies a few hours' journey from our southern coast. A new commander is to try to retrieve Spanish fortunes there, and to repair the disasters of his prede pessor: but should be too fail and should this year's practicable campaigning season end with the patriot cause stronger than ever, what hope can the Madrid Government have of retaining Cuba in its grasp?

From the foundation of our Government. Cuba has always been looked upon by the American people as a land that should one uny be free. Writing to Mantson, in 1809, Mr. JEFFERSON showed his ardent wish on this subject: "It will be objected to our receiving Cuba that no limit can then be drawn to our future acquisitions. Cuba can be defended by us without a navy." And fourteen years later, when more than lourscore years old, writing from Monticello to President MONROE, "I candidly confess," he said, "that I have ever looked on Cuba as the most interesting addition which could ever be made to our system of States."

Thirty years afterward EDWARD EVERETT, while Secretary of State, declared that Cuba would be "an extremely valuable possession, and under certain contingencies might be almost essential to our safety." Its geographical and strategic relations to our country he thus expressed:

"The island of Cuba lies at our doors. It command the approach to the Gulf of Mexico, which washes res of five of our States. It bars the entranc of that great river which drains half the North Amer-ican continent, and with its tributaries forms the largest system of internal water communication in the world. It keeps watch at the doorway of our inter-course with California by the Isthmus route."

It is also worth noting that Mr. EVERETT. addressing Lord JOHN RUSSELL in 1858, quoted a recent French traveller to confirm his own impression that "all the ordinary political rights enjoyed in free countries are denied to the people of that island. The government is, in principle, the worst form of despotism, namely, absolute authority delegated to a military viceroy and sup-ported by an army from abroad." And that this was the inherent nature of the system Mr. EVERETT was the more convinced since personal character of the Captain-General in office at that time.

In short, the problem of Cuba has presented itself to the American people for generations substantially as it presents itself to-day. Scrupulously careful to observe all international obligations toward Spain, they have held the belief that the day would come when they could welcome the freedom of Cuba either as an independent republic or as an addition to our own fraternity. Does it not look as if that day were almost at hand?

#### What Will Lord Salisbury Do? The day fixed for the reassembling of the

British Parliament is close at hand. We shall soon learn, either from the Queen's speech or in the course of the debate on the responsive address, whether Lord SALISBURY means to recede from his stiff declaration in the note to Mr. OLNEY that under no circumstances would England permit arbitrators to determine the title to any part of the territory claimed British Guiana east of the so called Schomburgk line. Have we any ground for believing that such a recession is intended? It is true that such a change of policy has been advocated by a number of English newspapers and public men, for the most part representatives of the power less Opposition, but not a syllable has been uttered by Lord Salisbury, or any of his colleagues, indicative of a willingness on the part of the British Government to meet the wishes of the United States, and to submit the whole of the Venezuela boun dary question to an impartial tribunal.

We would not underrate the moral influence which the views of many fair-minded Englishmen might exercise, if political par ties were more evenly matched in the pres ent House of Commons. Mr. GLADSTONE'S advice, that his countrymen should use their common sense, has not fallen everywhere upon deaf ears, and words have been uttered by some of the Queen's subjects that do honor to their hearts and to their heads. Their frank admissions of the justice of Mr. CLEVELAND's proposal put to shame the Doughfaces and Copperheads on this side of the Atlantic, who have out-Toried the Tory Squires. For example, the London Tablet lately said: " By taking the law into our own hands, and refusing arbitration to a weak power, we have laid ourselves open to the suspicion that, under cover of a frontier quarrel, we are really seeking an extension of territory at the expense of a feeble republic, and so offending against the doctrine laid down by President MONROE." The Tablet goes to recognize that "to ascertain the truth of that allegation, to see whether our claim to lands said to belong to Venezuela is made bona fide, or, as the Government of Venezuela urges, is a mere pretext for aggression, is the sole object of President CLEVELARD's Commission." | It adds: "Let it always be remembered that that way of getting at the truth was resorted to

exhausted, first by Venezuela and then by the United States, to have the whole dispute referred to a judicial decision." To much the same effect writes Mr. DICEY

in the last number of the Nineteenth Cen-

turn. He begins with remarking that he has tried in vain to reconcile the claims successively set up by different British Ministries with any distinct understanding upon their part of what constitutes the true frontier of British Guiana. He proceeds to declare that he can discover no especial warrant for the Schomburgk line which the Foreign Office has proclaimed to be the irreducible minimum of British claims. 'As far as I can learn," he says, "the line derives no additional authority from the circumstances of its authorship." He next examines the contention that to the land east of the Schomburgk line British Guiana has acquired a prescriptive title, based upon the alleged undisputed occupation for many years of large portions of this territory by British settlers. Regarding this assertion Mr. DICEY says: off I am not mistaken, the facts which we adduce as establishing our occupation are disputed by the Venezuelan Government." His conclusion is: 'We cannot ask to be judges in our own cause, to establish the evidence, to define the law, and to pronounce the sentence Common sense would seem to show that, before we enforce our claim against Venezuela by the right of the strongest, we should do well to submit that claim to impartial

and independent investigation." Thus do some Englishmen uphold the equity of Mr. CLEVELAND's position, which by our renegades and Uitlanders is indiseriminately condemned. It remains to be seen, however, whether these utterances of truth and soberness represent anything more decisive than the voices of men crying in the wilderness. There is not as yet a particle of evidence that they have influenced Lord SALISBURY.

#### An Ill-Informed Bostonian.

Mr. CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS of Boston is not familiar with the circumstances in the case of Cuba, and hence his opinion about it cannot be regarded as enlightened. In the statement he has made upon the subject, as printed in Boston, there is the following remark:

"The contest is mainly carried on by a reckless an mostly lawless set of fellows, who secure negroes and irresponsible followers that may be set down as little etter than banditti."

The many thousands of Cuban patriots who have taken up arms for liberty are neither reckless nor lawless. In their movements and battles they have been far more heedful of the laws of civilized warfare than the Spanish soldiers whom they have fought. This truth has been made manifest from the beginning of hostilities till this time. They have not shot their prisoners, or wantonly destroyed property, or killed inoffensive people, or perpetrated other lawless acts. They have administered the highest penalty to any man among them who had been guilty of misdeeds, and but a few days ago one of their number was court martialled and executed for stealing a small quantity of goods from a shopkeeper in a place which they occupied. Under orders from Gen. GOMEZ, brigands who may seize the opportunity afforded them by war to commit crimes are punished with death, and in this month of January between twenty and thirty outlaws have been shot by his authority. It has been made manifest ever since the outbreak of the war that the discipline in the patriot army is as rigorous as it is in any European army. Their organization is most excellent; they could not be under better leadership; the cause for which they fight is the noblest; they struggle as men of heroic quality for its success. It is a shame for any one to say that these revolutionary patriots are "lit-tle better than banditti." Even the distinguished Spanish General who met with failure in his attempt to crush them, and who has left the field, admitted that they were deserving of respect.

irresponsible follow Negroes and says Mr. ADAMS. It is a wrongful characterization. The army of Gomez, which, within a few months, has become a formidable one, is made up of all the elements of Cuba's population. At least one-third are men of the old Spanish blood; about one-third are Cuban creoles; and the other third are mulattoes or negroes, all of them knit together for the sake of freedom. Among the general officers there are white men, olive-complexioned men, and blackskinned men. The patriot chosen as President of the Cuban republic is the Marquis of SANTA LUCIA; the Minister sent to represent the republic in this country is Senor

It is wrong for Mr. ADAMS to describe them as bandits or as reckless and irresponsible fellows.

TOMAS ESTRADA PALMA.

After Mr. ADAMS, who is of American Revolutionary stock, had spoken slightingly of the Cuban revolution, he took occasion to confess that he did not know much about it. That confession may account for his remarks, but it cannot be taken as an excuse

for them. Surely Mr. ADAMS cannot believe that the Cuban people at large would sympathize with the patriot cause if it were a reckless and lawless thing, upheld by banditti. Yet there is not a doubt that nearly the whole of the natives of Cuba, regardless of color. and a good portion of its Spanish-born inhabitants, are in full sympathy with that cause, and ardently desire its success, for Cuba's sake.

# How Can He Get Rich?

This letter is one of many of the same general kind sent to us by young men, and hence, in answering it, we reply also to the

whole number of such inquiries: " You lately devoted several columns to the subject of gold mines in Africa Cripple Creek, Alaska, and last, but maybe not least, Tierra del Fuego. I am of age, average strength, fair capabilities, have pienty of push, a good home, parents, and several hundred dollars saved. I think New York too full for advancement unless backed by influential friends. Now, would you advise me (and there are many more like me) to try the gold fields; to give up home and parents and try pot luck at any of the aforementioned places? If which is the best ' poor man's camp?'

"If the mining takes capital, how is trading in these paddle my own canoe,' or ' handle my own pick,' or carry my own bundle.' You see that I have not the gold fever, and that I do not jump at conclu-

Gold mining, more especially as it is conducted in these days, involves the use of large capital, but even if a man has the capital he had better keep out of it unless he understands the business. Our correspondent is a New York young man, and evidently he has no knowledge whatever of that specialty. Accordingly, his judgment as to the chances of finding gold in sufficient quantities to justify the great cost of mining, milling, and reducing it, is worthless. If he made anything out of mining it would probably be only as a wage earner, and apparently he is not fitted for such rough manual labor. As he has been bred to trade, he is far more likely to make

mine upon the face of the earth. He knows something about it, and his several hundred dollars is capital enough to start with,

A mining camp, too, may be a very desir able place for a trader; but it is question able if regions so far removed as the gold mines could be sought profitably by a young man like our correspondent. Inasmuch as he knows nothing about their demands and opportunities for trade, he would have to go to them beforehand in order to find out the situation, and the cost of such a tour of inspection would make a large hole in his accumulation of capital. Probably he would discover that traders already on the ground, who had accompanied the early settlers, were furnishing the needed supplies, and that the chances of his making money there

were fewer than in New York. At any rate, no young man who has saved up money is obliged to take such a risk in order to get ahead. If he is single, and ha no capital, he may take or may have to take the chances of an adventurer, but with several hundred dollars ahead he should be more conservative. It may be that our correspondent can do better elsewhere than here in New York, though it is not true that New York is "too full for advancement un less backed by influential friends." He may find a more promising opening in som other place; but before he leaves New York he should take pains to satisfy himself that it offers to him that great opportunity. He knows the situation here, and for that rea son New York is likely to be the more de sirable field for the employment of his ener gies. Hence, before he leaves it he should

be sure that he knows of a better. Other things being equal, great cities are the best places for money making. That is why they are great. Intellect, energy, enterprise, and business sagacity tend more and more to concentrate in large cities, for they offer the best and richest field for their exercise. Nor is it absolutely requisite that they should start out with the backing of influential friends. They will attract friends or rather be of themselves influential.

Finally, young friend, it is usually wise to wait for opportunities to come to you than to go searching for them; but the sa gacity which leads to practical success con sists in recognizing and improving the golden opportunities, however and wherever they may arise.

#### Italy's War of Conquest.

A month ago the Italian Chamber ex pressed its "confidence in the ability of our Government to preserve the prestige of our arms and to reëstablish peace in Africa.' This week King MENELEK proclaims that he will make peace if the Italians will clear out of Tigré, bag and baggage, as a preliminary step. The Italians have been advancing and fighting for months for the sole purpose of making Tigré, the most northern province of Abyssinia, a part of their own possessions. The conditions King MENELEK proposes indicate that he is fairly well content with the turn affairs have taken.

He has reason to be content. Fortune has not been kind to Italy since October last. All last year, until October, the Ital ians had been pushing gradually south ward, across Tigré. Now and then the Abyssinians made a stand, but fled defeated from every battlefield. There were fights at Coatit, Senaafa, Antalo, and Debra Alla and the natives, demoralized by their re verses, allowed the invaders to occupy the important towns of Adigrat and Makalle without a struggle. At last the Italian vanguard reached the oddly peaked mountain Amba Alagi, and here the triumphal prog ress was tragically terminated. Of the 1 000 men whom Major Toselll commanded, only 300 lived to tell of the overwhelming num bers that nearly annihilated them.

Since then, when the Italian army at th front have marched at all, they have lost ground. They have been marching north Antalo and Debra Aila were again occupied by the Abyssinians. The Italians made a long stand behind the fortifications they had reared at Makalle, and they fought desperately but in vain to drive off the enemy, who completely sur rounded them and cut off nearly every source of water. At last MENELEK has raised the siege and permitted the garrison to resume their northern march, sending word after them of the terms on which he will make peace. It is not likely that they will stop south of Adigrat.

Italian prestige has suffered. Twelve months after the campaign began, their ad vanced forces have lost about half of the ground they had won. They have not had a single success in the field since MENELEK and his Shoans joined the native forces of Tigré. Nobody doubts that if Italy lavishes plenty of money and men in this war she can subdue the Abyssinians. But can she

afford to pay the price? If there is a nation in Europe that needs o practise rigid economy, and to postpone the day of foreign conquest until she is richer and stronger, it is Italy; and yet she has entered upon a war for territorial aggrandizement with a half-civilized people who have put at least 60,000 men in the field, who make their own gunpowder, and who have thousands of guns and some serviceable cannon.

There is no reason to doubt that the way will go on. The Government, the Parliament, and the nation will say, as they said after the reverse at Amba Alagi, that the honor of the Italian flag must be maintained at all costs. It will certainly require valiant and costly endeavor to restore the prestige of the national arms in Erythrea. Italy's war of conquest is proving a very expensive amusement, and the end is not yet in sight.

#### No Free Lodgings in the Police Stations.

On and after Feb. 15, which is JEREMY BENTHAM's birthday, the Police Depart ment of this town will cease to furnish free lodgings in station houses to destitute persons. After that date these station house lodgers must look elsewhere for such meagre and unsatisfactory accommodations as the police have afforded. For years past thousands of tramps, and of dissipated persons of both sexes not tramps, have used these station houses as sleeping rooms, to the number of about 70,000 in a year Since 1891, however, the number has been steadily diminishing. In that year the number of such lodgers was 147,000; in 1892 it was 137,000; in 1893 it was 127, 000, and in 1894 it was only 68,000.

There are no proper accommodations in such of the station houses in Nev York as have been furnishing free lodgings to destitute and homeless persons. More over, the practice unquestionably has aided in the spreading of contagious diseases, requiring afterward the attention of the Board f Health and private physicians. Station houses are maintained by the city for police purposes, and not for benevolent purposes.

The abandonment on Feb. 15 of the pres ent system will promote the agitation for the erection in this city of municipal lodging houses. Every consideration of human ity and public order and sound sanitary

such institutions. In 1886, when the discussion of this question began to be general a law was passed by the Legislature permitting the local authorities to provide for such necessary lodging houses as should be required. Two years later the Commissioners of Charities and Correction made requisition for the sum of \$25,000 to carry out this project, but for two years success sively the request of the Commissioner was refused by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, and nothing came of it.

The act of the Police Board in doing away with free lodgings in police stations after Feb. 15, will now not only compel a reconsideration of the question, but probably may lead to a satisfactory determination of it. It must be obvious that if the police authorities refuse to give accommodations to homeless applicants, the latter will turn, or be turned from the station houses to the police courts, where as vagrants they would be committed to public institutions. Some effort is making by charitable and philanthropic persons to establish free lodging houses in New York for the deserving poor under conditions which will make them partly, if not wholly, self-supporting. If that is done, it will solve, to some extent, the problem presented by the Police Board. The Legislature of 1896, following in the footsteps of the Legislature of 1886, may authorize some provision for the homeless of New York's population; and, it is to be hoped, with better results than those of ten years ago.

# Things Mr. Flower Should Learn.

Ex-Governor Roswell P. Flower, Pres ident of the Democratic Club of this city, took occasion at the dinner of the club last Tuesday evening to exhibit in the most conspicuous manner his ignorance of financial principles and financial facts. In his after dinner speech he made, first, these remarks

"Republican return to power has not yet producequite as much mischler in the country at large as it has in this city and State, probably because it has not yet had chances enough at Washington, and because any attempted mischlef would be checked by the eratic President; but so far as can be seen of their intentions and policies, Republicans are likely to show their incapacity to give the country the kind of medicine it needs. They are attempting to raise the tariff duties 13 per cent., while the Treasury has satisfied, over \$200,000,000 of idle money in it

It is high time for Mr. FLOWER to learn that the proceeds of bonds sold for the purpose of redeeming legal tender notes cannot properly be diverted to the payment of current expenses. If the Treasury had \$500,-000,000 instead of \$200,000,000 in its vaults, obtained by bond sales, it would still be necessary for Congress to reform the tariff duties, or to provide in some other way for an increase of revenue.

Not content with displaying his want of knowledge on this point, Mr. FLOWER proceeded to make another misstatement:

"Neither the Government of England, nor that o France, nor that of Germany, Issues currency-they are not in the banking business-we are." The German Empire has outstanding 120,

000,000 marks, or \$30,000,000, of " Reichs-Kassenscheine" in notes of 5 marks, 20 marks, and 50 marks, which are receivable for public dues and circulate as currency. The Bank of England is a Government in stitution, acting as the financial agent of the Exchequer, and issuing \$75,000,000 of circulating notes secured by a Government debt. The Bank of France, which issues all the paper money of that country, is likewise a Government agency, and its chief officer is appointed by the President of the Republic. Still, it is entirely correct to say that these three countries are not in the banking business, but to say that we are is contrary to the truth. The issuing of paper currency is no more banking than is the coining of metal money. By the charter of the Bank of England, drawn up by Sir ROBERT PEEL, its Issue department is entirely separated from its banking department, and both Sir ROBERT PEEL and Mr. GLADSTONE have declared that the issue of circulating notes is not banking and ought to be kept distinct from it.

Mr FLOWER might perh employ his present political leisure in learning something of these matters instead of talking about them without knowledge.

# A Singular Exhibition.

The HEINE Fountain Committee had no member in the Park Board, to which body, in accordance with a rational custom, their fountain was first submitted as a can didate for a site in New York. The HEINE committee has a member, though, in the Board of Aldermen, Alderman WINDOLPH, and his place there has been made use of to induce the Aldermen to give a place to the fountain which was refused by the Park Board. The Park Board's act was not because of any caprice or prejudice of its members. It referred the matter, as it was bound to do, and as any municipal body confronted with a question of art is bound to do, to the best experts obtainable, and in this case the latter happened to be a body of exceptional impor tance and authority, representing the united artists of this city. It would have been a gross abuse of its official responsibility for the Park Board to accept the fountain after its rejection by the Sculpture Society and it would be an equally gross abuse now for the Aldermen to accept it.

The usual allotment of local pride and self-respect would have precluded any further effort on the part of the HEINE people to get their fountain erected here. conduct of certain distinguished citizens, under circumstances precisely similar to theirs, was standing fresh before them as a model. When Mr. ELIHU ROOT and a considerable number of prominent men offered the statue of President ARTHUR to New York, and it was rejected as artistically undesirable, no murmur of complaint was heard from them. They didn't bring speakers before the Park Board to argue agains the report of its advisers, or assail the latter with charges of prejudice and unfitness as critics. They didn't bring testi monials of the talent of the sculptor they had employed, nor favorable accounts of other works by him as an offset to the inferiority of the statue in question. They would have been ashamed to exhibit them selves as seeking arrogantly to ride rough shod over the artists judging in behalf of the city, and to impose themselves upon us as the arbiters of our municipal art. Politically they were men of the first importance but there was no mixing up of their personal desires with the machinery of politics At no point did they fail to show the char acter of loyal New Yorkers or the manner of gentlemen The HEINE committee have shown a lack

of delicacy in the treatment of this matter that does not add to the reputation or at tractiveness of anything which they stand for. They have endeavored to induce both the Park Board and the Board of Aldermen to use their public powers for their personal gratification, and to insult the artistic professions of New York by rejecting the advice of their representatives, given only when every diplomatic means had been | money by it than by digging for gold in any | conditions demands the establishment of | officially, in favor of a few random and irre-

sponsible opinions from Germany. Denying that they were striving to force this fountain upon New York, their endeavor has been carried into the Board of Aldermer by a member of their own committee, and they were represented among the speakers

before the committee of Aldermen at the

hearing last Saturday. After such a breach of the standards of good citizenship, the wonder is that some more outspoken protest does not come from our other German fellow citizens from whose ranks this extraordinary move ment has arisen. While it is always easier to yield than to deny, it cannot be expected that the Common Council of New York will surrender to the importunity of the HEINE men and make them the Art Committee of New York.

The Supreme Court, appellate branch, has confirmed the conviction of John Illinos-WORTH, one of DAMSEN'S RIDS. ILLINGSWORTH s a typical Dansen appointee. On being in trusted with the care of a prisoner in the Court of Oyer and Terminer, he disregarded Judge BARRETT's commitment order, and was adjudged guilty of contempt of court and sentenced to ten days' imprisonment in Damsen's Ludlow street jail, besides a fine of \$250. He appealed from the decision of Judge BARRETT and it has now been affirmed.

It is said that the Hon. BENTON G. Mc MILLIN of Tennessee cannot make up his mind whether to become a candidate for Governor o to content himself with being a member of Congress. Indecision seems to be Mr. McMillin's normal condition. In the Fifty-third Congress he didn't know whether he was a Democrat o a Populist. But everybody else knew after he became a howler for the income tax.

The Hon. WILLIAM PLIMLEY, the Reform Commissioner of Jurors, who, like Kubilen of Reform fame, was "just across from Jersey" when officially discovered by Mayor STRONG publishes a statement, or bulletin, to correct some popular errors among New Yorkers con cerning the functions and responsibilities of the office of the Commissioner of Jurors. But that important bureau of the municipal Government is not as well managed by PLIMLEY, the Reformer, as it was by his predecessor, Nooney, the Democrat. Proof of this is furnished by the recent report of PLIMLEY, which shows that he collected only \$495 in fines from delinquent jurors in cases where fines to the amount of \$118,000 had been imposed, and that he turned over to the city only 20 cents from the fees, while the expense of his department, for the same period, was \$8,400. It is a matter of public notoriety here that the service of jury notices is irregular and unsatisfactory. PLIM-LEY appears to be a stranger to what is going on.

We are not learned in the science of wrecking, but why the St. Paul's owners haven't had a line about every samson post on the ship and a couple of bridles around her stem, and forty tugs instead of four heaving away to gether, we don't see.

ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON'S personal estate, in the United Kingdom alone, has just een taxed at a sworn valuation of about \$57,000. In view of the quite general impression that lack of money forced STEVENSON to write at times when illness made the effort a cruel torture, our neighbor, the New York Times, asks these questions:

"Evidently there could never have been any occathe luxuries of life. What was it, then, that he did worry about? Why did he, until almost the very end, rise daily in his bed and force a reluctant pen to ser vices that added nothing to his fame, and not much to his purse ?"

Three things, probably. First, the reluctance characteristic both of STEVENSON'S temperament and of his disease to give up the battle and admit that his productive power was less than formerly. Secondly, the benevolent desire to help on his stepson, Mr. LLOYD OSBORNE, by lending in collaboration to that young aspiran for literary honors the prestige of his own great fame. Thirdly, the constant and increase ing embarrassment in the matter of ready money to which his Valilma establishmen subjected him. That mountain-side enterprise was very dear to STEVENSON's heart and very costly to his pocket and health. Gentleman farming is expensive business the world over; and Vallima gave ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON plenty to worry about.

We recently spoke of the rigorous enforcement of military law and of discipline in the Cuban patriot forces under Gen. GOMEZ. Three of the most recent examples of this rigor are reported in a Spanish tournal of Hayana At Alquisar a Lieutenant of the insurgents entered a shop and seized six shirts, for which he re fused to pay. He was court-martialed by order of GOMEZ, found guilty, and shot upon the public square of the place in presence of the assembled citizens. Another example occurred at Sabanilla. While a gang of marauders were plundering the shops there a squad of patriot horsemen rushed upon them and carried them off to the outskirts, where they were shot. Yet another example of the kind is reported from When the patriot officer RABI got news that a band of desperate outlaws wer ooting the houses there he gave them chase and captured twenty-five of them, all of whon were drawn up in file and promptly shot. There penalties were inflicted under GOMEZ's general order that brigandage shall be suppressed, and that his officers may even cooperate with the regular municipal authorities of any place in

If the Spanish Generals were as rigid as is GOMEZ in the enforcement of military law, there would be less plundering in the regions under

Two women deserving of kindly obituary memoranda have died here this week; one o them the daughter of the late THURLOW WEED, politician and journalist, strong in statecraft and in influence; the other the widow of HUGH HASTINGS, also journalist and politi cian, and long associated with Mr. Willo. The former died at her home in this city last Sunday, and the other at her residence at Monmouth Beach last Monday. Both of them were women of marked character and most meritorious life, magnani mous in spirit, and devoted to good works, Everybody who knew Mr. WEED in the years o his activity was aware of the helpfulness of his three daughters, EMILY and HARRIET and MA RIA, the latter of whom, she who has just died, became Mrs. MARIA WEED ALDEN. The two others have been dead for some time. They were his companions as long as he lived; and the two who survived him doted upon his memory after his death. In like manner, Mrs. HAST-INGS was her husband's guardian angel through all the vicissitudes of his career, and, during the long period of her widowhood, she had him

Through the later years of the life of both of these interesting women they gave up a great part of their time to the labors of philanthropy. serving those who needed service, and helping from their ample means those who required help. The kindly nature, disposition, and duties of both of them were known to thousands of living people, who will give them a niche in the chambers of memory worthy of their name.

# An English Tory.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Your paper of to day quotes a pro-English statement from the Chicago Evening Journal. You comment adversely thereon our comments are just.
Season Thompson, the editor in chief of the Chicago

Journal, was born in St. Johns, N. R., of royalist (Tory) ancestors who fied from Connecticut during the Revolution. Hence the Journal's pro English sentiment.

Discrepancy. From the Courier Journal. "Isn't this a lovely new edition of Byron's works?
"New edition? Why, I thought Byron was dead." NATIONAL RATS AND MICE.

More of the Agricultural Department Non-TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SIT: In my feeble way I attempted to give you, last winter, some expression of my opinion of the remarkable series of books on rats which the genius of our dovernment was creating, and I thought when this last book on these rats reached me-the same book which you have so handsomely noticed in THE SUN, by Prof. Clinton Hart Merriam—that the subject was finally exhausted.

I have reckoned without my host. It seems that the mice of our fields, and the shrew mice, too, have not been monographed up to date, for I have just received a twin book from the Agricultural Department, given up to these queer little short-tailed and long-tailed shrews which we farmers never see once in a coon's age. They never do us any harm: that's all we know.

The gifted author of this new book on these small shrew mice increases our fund of misinderstanding of them by that full and fervid use of scientific hyperbole which distinguished his "Monographic Revision of the Pecket Gophers," and which gave him such an enthusiastic reception by the honest farmers all over this land who were in receipt of his book.

He has braced himself anew to this immense and useful service of the farmer, and now the only thing for the farmer to do is to brace up in turn, for these books on ratsiand mice are going to multiply in obedience to the old saw, and the end of describing species may never come. "On with the dance! Let joy be unconfined!"

JAMES FITZGERALD,

PUNKTOWN, Ill., Jan. 20, 1896. that the mice of our fields, and the shrew mice,

## The Country's Stock of Gold.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir : The failare of the last bond issue as a popular loan tends o discredit the estimate of the amount of gold that we have in the country at the present time. According to this estimate we should have over \$300,000,000 in circulation besides what is in the banks and Treasury vaults.

I contend that this estimate is altogether too high. There cannot be anything like that amount of gold in circulation or hid away in old stockings.

Mr. Preston, the Director of the Mint, informs me that his estimate is based upon the stock of gold held by the Treasury and national banks in 1872, to which he adds the coinage and im-1872, to which headds the coinage and imports, and deducts the recoinages and exports and also the amount estimated to have been used in the arts for each year since.

This estimate, however, makes no allowance for the millions of gold coin known to have been taken out of the country every year by foreign workmen.

According to an estimate by the Heruid some years ago, immigrants returning to Europe take away about \$25,000,000 yearly. Besides these, we have fully 300,000 Chinese and Canadian laborers, who must absorb fully \$75,000,000 more every year. The money which these recopie send away in the form of drafts

these, we have fully 300,000 Chinese and Canadian laborers, who must absorb fully \$75,000,000 mere every year. The money which these people send away in the form of drafts and postal orders can easily be traced, but there is no way to find out how much they take away on their persons. The Chinese take more silver, while the white aliens prefer gold.

At least 50,000 of the Canadian workmen cross the torder every day, and when they get paid they take every cent of their earnings back home with them. They have been doing this for the last twenty-five vears; and if we add to the vast amount they must have absorbed in this way the millions that other alien workmen have carried off on their persons, it is quite evident that there cannot possibly be anything like \$300,000,000 in circulation at present.

Another leakage that Mr. Preston's estimate enores is the gold paid for smuggled goods. How much goes in this way it is hard to determine, but there can be no doubt that since 1872 we have lost a great many millions that do not appear in the Custom House reports.

New York, Jan 24, 1896. W. H. ALLEN,

### Lincoln Wrote a Free-thought Work,

To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: In your paper of

to day I find the following:
What "free thought work," or any kind of work, did Mr. Lincoln write in his carly life, or at any other time in his life.) Presuming this to be an honest request for information, I submit the following answer: William H. Herndon, as you know, was the partner of Lincoln up to the day of the latter's death. He knew Lincoln intimately, and knew of many incidents in his career which others did not. Judge Davia Davis, in whose court both Lincoln and Herndon practised for years, declared that Herndon knew more about Lincoln's re-

ligion than any other man. In 1870 Mr. Herndon contributed to the *Index*, published in Toledo, O., edited by Francis E. Abbott, en article on Lincoln's religious ideas. In this letter Mr. Herndon gives the following account of the "free thought work" which Mr. Lincoln wrote

thought work" which Mr. Lincoln wrotes

In 1835 he Lincoln, wrote out a small work on in fidelity, and intended to have it published. The book was an attack upon the whole grounds of Christianity, and especially was it an attack upon the fora that Jesus was the Christ, the true and only begotten sen of tool, as the Christian world contends. Mr. Lincoln was at that time in New Yalem, keeping store for Mr. Samuel Hill, a merchant and Postmaster of that place. Lincoln and Hill were very friendly. Hill, I think, was a skepth at this time. Lincoln one day, after the book was finished, read it to Mr. Hill, his good friend. Hill tried to persiande him not to make it publish not to publish it. Hill at that time saw in Lincoln a rising man, and wished him success. Lincoln refused to destroy it; said it should be published. Hill swore it should never see light of day. He had an eye on Lincoln's popularity—nis present and future success; and believing that if the book was published it would kill Lincoln forever, he snatched it from Lincoln's hand when Lincoln was not expecting it, and ran it into an old-fashioned tin plate stove, heated as het as a furnace, and so Lincoln's book went up to the clouds in smoke.

I do not think it was very lofty conduct upon the part

I do not think it was very lofty conduct upon the part Mr. Hill, and I wish Lincoln had rewritten the work and given it to the public. But that is neither here nor there. The fact that Lincoln wrote a free-thought work, which you seem to doubt, is settled by this testimony by Mr. Herndon. You will find it on pages 101-2 of "Abraham Lincoln: Was He a Chris tian ?" by John E. Remsburg, published by the Truth Seeker Company of 28 Lafayette place, this city. E. M. MACDONALIA New York, Jan. 20.

# Bleyele Brakes,

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUS-Sir: Whether it be the application of the Monroe distrine or the bleyele brake. The Sex keeps in touch with the true sentiments of the American people. There is no practical safe substitute for the brake. Proper instruction of its uses should be given in every beyele school, where at present, I regret to state, its importance is much every beyele school, where it is importance is much every beyele with the property of th

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Having been a wheelman for some time, and belonging to that class of riders who do not believe in scorching, to vertheless I am a firm believer in the brake. When I first became I am a firm believer in the brake. When I first became a rider, I had no brake attached to my whicel, but after a trial and an accident I concluded to have a brake on my wheel. Since putting a brake on I have ridden over 2,000 miles and never had an accident, but several accidents have been averted by having the brake, and I am satisfied that a brake is my only useful, but in reality a necessity to enable one to ride with any degree of safety or comfort. As to the weight of a brake being objectionable, it will say that I am using a brake weighing seven ounces. In riding through the crowded streets and avenues of New York and Brooklyn the wheel has to be under riders control, and ready to stop instantly.

[Brooklyn, Jan, 28.]

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In the letters that I have read and in the editorials published concern-ing brakes for bicycles there are no end of allusions to the safety of pedestrians, as though they alone have rights in the streets. If pedestrians would show a rights in the streets. If pedestrians would show a little consideration for our rights, the very few accidents that now occur would be reduced to no on at all. The disclain of insolent enachment, the british indifference of the drivers of threvers and other heavy ence of the drivers of the west and other heavy especially the computer of the control pedestrians, especially the computer of the control pedestrians as a control of the fourth of Abdermen will devise an ordinance to regulate the rights of all the users of the streets, including bicyclists, they will adopt the best way of accomplishing their object.

NEW YORK, Jan. 28.

This last correspondent should learn the existing rules of the city before he writes again. "Imperti-nent defiance of pedestrians" to whereimen must be can constitute a grievance requiring new ordinance by the Ablermen. The regulations for street travel are already in a satisfactory legal form, and if our corresp n lent will study them he will find that the pedestrian has the right of way over the man on wheels in the middle of the road as well as on the

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SOL: In view of the reent stranding of the St. Paul while she was lost in a cent stranding of the St. Paul while she was lost in a dense fog, would it not be well to oxabilish photo-graph galeries in the pillot houses or in other con-venient places on large vessels, and by using the Boetigen camera (asily obtain an impression of the lay of the land beyond the merelies inds or the treacherous shoul under the wave? Is not the dis-covery of the Wartzurg professor to be a godsend to the photo? Chambotte, N. C., Jan. 28. CHARLOTTE, N. C., Jan. 24.

# Claimed to Be 128 Years Old.

From the Pitte orga, Dispatch.
M. Descron, Ga., Jan. 20.—Hiram Lester, supposed to be the oldest man on earth. Is dead in the Henry county poorhouse at the age of 128. He was born in Rateigh, N. C., eight years before the high of the re public. There is no question as to his great age, as he leaves a son 92 years old, who is an inniate of the same institution, and a daughter, who lives in lieard county, and is 95 years old.

Uncle Biram," as he was familiarly known, came rom long-lived ancestry. His father lived to be 100 from long lived ancestry. His father lived to be 100 and his grandfather to be 115. The old man claimed to have enjoyed the hespitality of feorge Washington for intee days, and spoke livently on the subject of the official acts of Jefferson, Madison, and Jay. He claimed to have fought in the war of 1812, but he never drew a pension. He lost three sons in the civil war. In 1881 he was obliged to take refuge in the poorhouse. In 1891 he was married to Miss Mary Mosely, aged 81, the housekeeper of the poorhouse.

## FROM SENATOR KAUFFMAN.

He Denies that the Cameron Men Defeated Rim in His Own Home

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In answer to your article from Philadelphia yesterday referring to me, I ask you to publish the following correction: The reports about the recent primary election in this borough sent from here and published in certain New York and Philadelphia newspapers are so ridiculously

false that a correction is in order. In the First ward, in which Senator Kauffman and Representative Wilson live, there was only one contest, that for Justice of the Peace. Wil son's candidate, a violent Cameron man, was beaten without the expenditure of a dollar, either for or by his opponent. In the Second ward, which has always been largely for Cameron, there was a stiff fight for Council. All the power and money of the old Cameron ring were concentrated there, and a dozen workers concentrated there, and a dozen workers were summoned from the adjoining wards to join in the fight; they won, but by a majority of only 84 in a total poll of 400 votes, being 21 more than were polled in the last Presidential election. In the Third ward there was only one contest, that for Council, Wilson's candidate was defeated by a majority of 22.

The result shows that Senator Kauffman's friends carried the First and Third wards and reduced the Cameron majority in the Second to 84, the lowest it has been for years. Senator Quay was not a factor in the fight. No delecates were voted for.

COLUMNIA, Pa. Jan. 28.

## A Lost Miner's Hard Experience,

A Lost Miner's Hard Experience.

From the Philadelphin Public Ledger.

PITTSTON, Jan. 27.—Ever since last Thursday
Andrew Screnock, a miner, who worked in the
Exeter Mine and lives in Sturmerville, has been
lost. His friends claimed that he had been lost
in the workings. The report spread, however,
that he had gone to New York, and no systematic search was made for him. Last night the
envincer at the old Knight shaft discovered that
something was the matter with the air current.
An lovestigation was made and the missing man
was found at the lost of the shaft. He was in a
famisized condition. He said that while on his
way ont of the mine on Thursday evening his
light went out and he lost his way. He wandered about in the darkness for four days and
three nights until he came to the place where
he was found.

#### An Ox In a Tennee From the Courier-Journal.

PINEVILLE, Ky., Jan. 23. — A well-known effi-zen to all appearances lost an ox by death De-cember last. Some days thereafter he engaged a man to skin the carcass, but it was so cold and stiff the man refused to skin it. Then, on the 24th, the ex. to the great astonishment of all, came to life, at four or five ears of corn, and drank some swill milk, and that night died again. The ex is still lying by the barn well preserved, and to all appearances sleeping. The owner of the ex is a well-to-do farmer, and is a truthful man, and says he will swear to the statement made.

### An Upper Sandusky Game,

From the Cleveland Plain Dealer. Upper Sandisky, Jan. 26.—Another new swindling scheme has been devised and is practised in these parts. A farmer is induced to buy a bill of groceries of a travelling salesman, the goods to be shipped from some city. In payment the man agrees to take eggs. To make it all straight and right the farmer gives his notes for the goods and the travelling man gives his for the eggs. The goods and salesman are never seen, but the farmer's note turns up at the bank.

#### This Most Extraordinary Country. From the Cincinnati Enquirer.

"How did this doosid place get its name?" asked the visiting Britisher.
"The night it was named," explained the Osh-kosh citizen, "they was a lot of fellers drinkin hot Scotch. Finally they got full an decided to name the town 'Hot Scotch,' but by that time they was so full that the nighest they could could come to it was 'Oshkosh,' an' they let it go at that."
"Haw! 'Ow American!"

#### One Possible Exception. From the Rockland Tribune.

"Terrible cold!" cried Mr. Tuckerman, as he met the minister; "everything's frozen over at last, I'm certain."
But the minister shook his head doubtfully.
"You musn't make that an excuse for staying "You mush't make that an excuse for staying away from church any longer." he said, warn-And Mr. Tuckerman was half way down the street before he saw the application of it.

From the Chicago Evening Post.

"You used to say you thought Heaven sens me to you," she said, tearfully, after a little family lar.
"I see no reason to change my mind about that now," he returned.
"Really?" she exclaimed, delightedly, "Certainly," he replied. Then he spoiled it all by adding—"As a punishment." A Fable of the Time.

# From the Chicago Daily Tribuna

"This nest," observed the English sparrow, proceeding to suprepriate it, "is just about my size.
"That nest," spoke up the martin, belongs to my friend, the binetical and it's covered by the lonrow doctrine, You skip, and the avant courier of the fixing squadron went and the reported that reenforcements would be needed.

# SUNBEAMS.

-William Shivers, a negro, reported to be a little more than 104 years old, died in Blackshear, Ga., recently.

—A sturgeon weighing more than 600 pounds was caught near The Dalles, Oregon, last week. Its head

weighed 125 pounds.

There were 130 inches of snow on the ground along the main line of the Northern Pacific Rallroad in the Cascade Mountains, Wash., the first week of

-A farmer's wife in Lapeer, Mich., kept a record last year of her cooking operations. There are aix persons in her family, and here is her list: 325 loaves of bread, Sating of bis-mit, 15 loaves of brown bread 207 pies, 150 cakes, 35 puddings, 114 dozen cooklet 108 dozen ginger snaps, and 14 chicken pies. -A pridegroom of 90 was married to a bride of 68

in Merblen, Conn., last week. Each had been married

twice before. A good deal of interest was evinced in the match, and the contracting parties made public announcement of a time for the ceremony. were married a few hours cariler, and got safely and quietly away.

Evaporated potatoes, prepared in the same manner as evaporated apples, are to be put on the market from Minne, ota next fail. Last season's potato crop was so large that many millions of busiles were wasted, and experiments were made in evaporating

potators. The experiments were successful, and two big factories for preparing potatoes in this manner The Salvation Army will creet a fort and begin a campaign in Chinatown, San Francisco. It will be in charge of Capt. May Jackson, a young woman who has been a Salvationist many years and can speak the Canton diabet. "The Chinese like anything noisy," slie says, a fact relied on to engage the attention of

the Celestrate so that Capt, Jackson can get an oppor-tunity for using her persuasion — something securingly new in politics has developed at Fligabeth town, Ky. The Mayor announced on as suming office this year that he would give his salary to the city. The City Councilmen determined not to be outdone in patriotism, and voted to allow the city to draw their pay, too. While doubtless pure, their patriotism is not particularly costly. The Mayor's salary is \$75 a year, and the Councilmen are paid a

the rate of \$2 aptece for each meeting. That women in politics means purity in politics one Kansas woman has started out to demonstrate in an interesting way. Mrs. D. P. Leslie was elected County Clerk in Brown county at the last election. She, o course, pledged herself to appoint only deserving persons to offices in her control. She has begun by making her daughter chief deputy. She knows the character of this appointer thoroughly, and is sail fied of her fitness and integrity. Now the workers are wendering how far her faith in her own family

Who Can Say that Something Like this goes. The felling an immense ein near flyron, Mich. a. The felling an immense ein near flyron, Mich. a. few days ago, the woodcutters struck their saw against a bard substance when almost half way through the trunk of the tree. The tree was laid open with an axe, and there was found, grown up almos in the heart of it, a stone lattle axe head about 74 inches long and 5 inches across at the cutting end; the other end tapered to a point. The axe head was sticking in the tree at right angles to the grain, and

must have been left there many years ago by some savage warrier. - Mnine feds are almost in despair because of the continued tack of snow. Such a condition of affairs has not been known in very many years. There are 50,000,000 feet of logs in the Penobacot lumbering district winch cannot be moved because of the abtricts as well as \$5,000 cords of hemlock bark for tanging, and cit the humber and milling industries ting wheels on sleds has her a tried in some di-Every proving winter when ice has been cut it has been lauted to the houses on aleds. This year there is no show, and the ice has been cut and wheeled away. The farmers say now that the absonce of the warm

blanket of snow means short crops next year. The Hastling Age of Poetry. From the Boston Traveller Poetry is getting in some great licks these days.